

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HILDA L. SOLIS

April 5, 2022

Proclaiming Essential Worker Day and Recognizing Public Transit Workers

Residents of Los Angeles County rely on essential workers every day for the critical services they provide. These frontline superheroes ensure the health, well-being, and economic resiliency of local communities. Prior to the pandemic, many of our frontline workers were already facing hardships which have only been exacerbated over the last year. Despite these challenges, they showed up for the greater good of our region - they are our modern-day superheroes.

In particular, the Board of Supervisors recognizes the vital contributions that public transit workers have made as essential workers throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. They ensure residents have access to their jobs, medical appointments, grocery stores, and other essential services. While commuting needs and patterns are changing for many, public transit service remains available for those who need it. Public transit operators are often transporting other fellow essential workers – 75 percent of current Metrolink riders self-identify as essential workers. Moreover, before the pandemic, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority provided transit services for

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1.2 million riders every day – many of whom are low-income essential workers with household incomes of less than \$18,000.

Now more than ever, public transit is a critical resource for transit-dependent communities to have equitable access to vaccination sites. We can always count on our frontline transit workers to keep our communities moving, especially during times of uncertainty.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors proclaim April 28th, 2022, “Essential Worker Day” to recognize the essential contributions that frontline workers, especially public transit workers, have made to Los Angeles County throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

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